

PERSISTENCE



To Graduation

Monthly E-news from the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Student Success



Compassion Resilience Toolkit for Schools

The [Compassion Resilience Toolkit for Schools](#) was developed in partnership with several organizations and institutions and it offers information, activities, and resources for school leadership and staff to understand, recognize, and minimize the experience of compassion fatigue and to increase compassion resilience perspectives and skills. The authors of the toolkit are a collaborative team made up of mostly educators including classroom teachers, student services personnel, and administrative leadership. Community mental health practitioners were also on the team. The toolkit is designed for flexible implementation by facilitators within their school.

Governor's School for Entrepreneurs

Applications are being accepted for the 2020 [Governor's School for Entrepreneurs](#), which is scheduled for June 7-27 at Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights. The free program is open to students in grades 9-11, and participants can earn high school class credit and scholarships to Kentucky colleges and universities. The Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE), brings teens from across the state into a three-week residential program and immerses them in an authentic entrepreneurial experience. Students learn more about the opportunities, benefits and pitfalls of taking a business concept from the idea phase to pitching it to potential investors. The application deadline is Jan. 20. Visit the [GSE website](#) for more information.

Relevant Research, Practice Tips, and Briefs

December Happiness Calendar: The [Greater Good Magazine](#) provides science-based insights for a meaningful life. Here is their [December Calendar](#).

No Longer Hidden: Check out this [infographic](#) from the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness which highlights facts on high school student homelessness.

KECSAC Fall Newsletter: Read about updates and information by the KY Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children [here](#).

Teen Stress: According to a 2019 Pew research poll, 70% of surveyed teens agree that anxiety and depression are major problems. [This article](#) explores recent data and how teachers are responding with solutions.

Arts Integration Excels Academic, Social and Emotional Skills: Read this [brief story](#) from [Edutopia](#) about a school that went from close to closure to thriving due to arts integration.

The Cost of School Holidays: Check out [this article](#) on the impact of school holidays on students in poverty. This article examines and documents the evidence that has emerged on this

important topic. What can be done? See this brief [article](#) about supporting student's after school breaks.

Statewide Trafficking Report: "Project PIVOT (Prevention and Intervention for Victims of Trafficking) is a research study with the aims of increasing awareness of the issue of child trafficking in Kentucky and improving the ability of systems to appropriately and effectively respond to child trafficking victims in a manner which limits additional trauma to the child victim." [This research](#) was conducted by the University of Louisville Human Trafficking Research Initiative in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Community Based Services and the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General.

Seclusion in Schools – A Special Report: Illinois ordered schools last week to immediately stop secluding and using certain physical restraints on students with special needs after [a report](#) about the practices raised questions about compliance with state and federal law as well as the welfare and safety of students. Some schools that often used seclusion say they will need to re-examine their methods of dealing with students who demonstrate "challenging behavior."

Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

Webinars

KY Transition Readiness and HS Graduation Requirements: See the pre-recorded webcasts about [transition readiness and dual-credit partnerships](#) as well as minimum [high school graduation requirements](#).

Rethinking Equitable and Inclusive Classrooms: In this free webinar, challenges, solutions and tools towards equity will be offered. This webinar is scheduled for December 12 at 3:00 (ET). If you are interested, you can [read more information and register](#).

Delivering Mental Health Services through a Cultural Lens: This webinar provides a conceptual foundation of the importance of culture, including definitions, frameworks, and concepts. We will look at a self-assessment tool to examine cultural and linguistic competence (CLC) in our organization, and we will explore the leadership required to motivate and integrate CLC into systems and service delivery. [The webinar](#) will take place January 9 from 6:00-7:00 PM (ET).

Friendly and Fearless – Neuroplasticity and Inner Resources: An experiential, practical workshop for helping professionals about the use of positive neuroplasticity will be offered via webcast by Dr. Rick Hanson and Dr. Daniel Ellenberg with UC Berkley on February 21. If you are interested, you can [find more information and register](#).

Solutions to the Dropout Crisis Webcasts: *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis* webcasts are always offered free of cost, and no registration is required. Tune in the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 PM ET for new [Solutions to the Dropout Crisis](#), where you can also find recordings of previous webcasts.

Conferences and Activities

School Ambassador Fellowship Program: The US Department of Education is accepting applications for the 2020-2021 School Ambassador Fellowship Program. The program lets outstanding teachers, principals, counselors, psychologists, social workers and other school-based professionals who interact with students on a daily basis bring their expertise to USED and expand their knowledge of the national dialogue about education. In turn, fellows facilitate the learning and input of other educators and community members. The application period closes December 31, 2019. Visit the [USED's website](#) for more information.

National ESEA Conference: The national ESEA Conference will be held on February 4-7 in Atlanta, GA. The four day conference is focused on supporting students served by ESEA programs with a focus on equity. Conference details and registration materials are available on the [ESEA website](#).

Kentucky Center for Mathematics Conference is scheduled for March 9-10, 2020 and will be held in Lexington, KY. For more information or to register visit their [conference webpage](#).

Kentucky Society for Technology in Education is scheduled for March 11-12, 2020 in Louisville, KY. For more information or to register visit their [conference webpage](#).

Wishing each of you a restful, peaceful holiday break. Thank you for all that you do!

If you would like to contribute any information (resources, celebrations, etc.) to this enews, please email judi.vanderhaar@education.ky.gov. Also, please share this link with your colleagues who might be interested in subscribing to the [Persistence to Graduation listserv](#) (right click to subscribe)